

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 19, 2008
TO: Mike Patton – Director Open Space / Mountain Parks
FROM: Glenn Magee – FAM ~~MA~~
Frank Young – Fire Department
SUBJ: Fire Training Center Access Options

The Boulder Regional Fire Training Center project was recently reviewed by Planning Board at the Concept Plan Level. The facility is to be located at the foot of the Boulder Reservoir Dam on the parcel known as the Wells Property, which was identified by City Council as the preferred location after a site selection process in 2006.

From the outset, access to the facility has been identified as coming from 51st Street through the Reservoir recreational grounds. The plan to date has been to utilize the existing Reservoir roadway but supplement it with a multi-modal path to mitigate conflicts between the Reservoir users and the Fire Training function. This concept was met with some concerns from neighbors to the west. These concerns were reflected in comments from the Planning Board and we were asked to undertake additional investigation for the potential of accessing the FTC facility from 63rd Street to the north. The 63rd Street access, in any configuration, will create a number of challenges including the need to cross property owned by Open Space / Mountain Parks. Other influences include the need to avoid sensitive environmental issues such as the designated wetlands area, the need to preserve security for the Water Treatment Plant operation, and the need to avoid any private property in the area. I would also add that we have received approval for emergency egress to Highway 119 which will accommodate fire vehicles leaving the site for emergencies.

The attached conceptual maps illustrate the options that we intend to present to Planning Board to address their concerns:

Option A is illustrates access from 51st Street, utilizing the existing Reservoir roadway as currently proposed in the Land Use Review process documents.

Each of the following options would impact OSMP property to varying degrees. The general design of the roadway would be all-weather, hard surface, two-lane road approximately 24 feet in total width. Each design would require some level of structured crossing to span over drainage patters on the site. For reference, the Traffic Analysis prepared for the project has indicated a trip generation of 32 one way vehicle trips over the course of a typical day, 18 or so being fire apparatus, and a “worst case” trip generation, occurring approximately 7m times per year, of 104 one-way trips, 20 or so being fire apparatus.

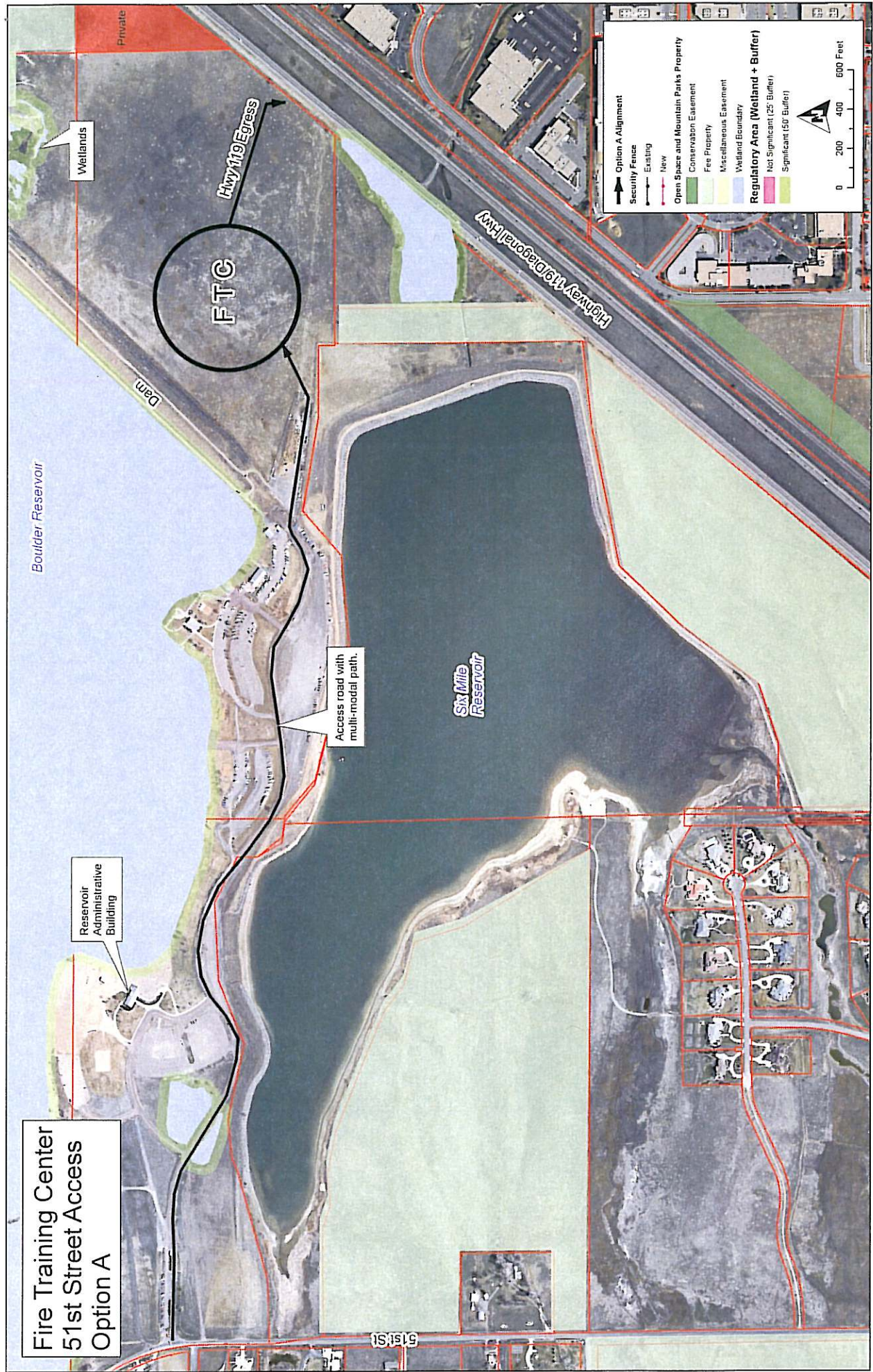
Option B-1 illustrates entering from 63rd street through the exiting Water Treatment Plant entry, then orienting a new roadway that would parallel Highway 119, crossing OSMP property to the south and to the west, then heading south again to the FTC development envelope.

Option B-2 illustrates entering from 63rd through the Water Treatment Plant entry, then orienting a new "straight-shot" roadway that would bisect the OSMP property and lead directly to the FTC development envelope. This option is the most direct route to the FTC facility from 63rd Street.

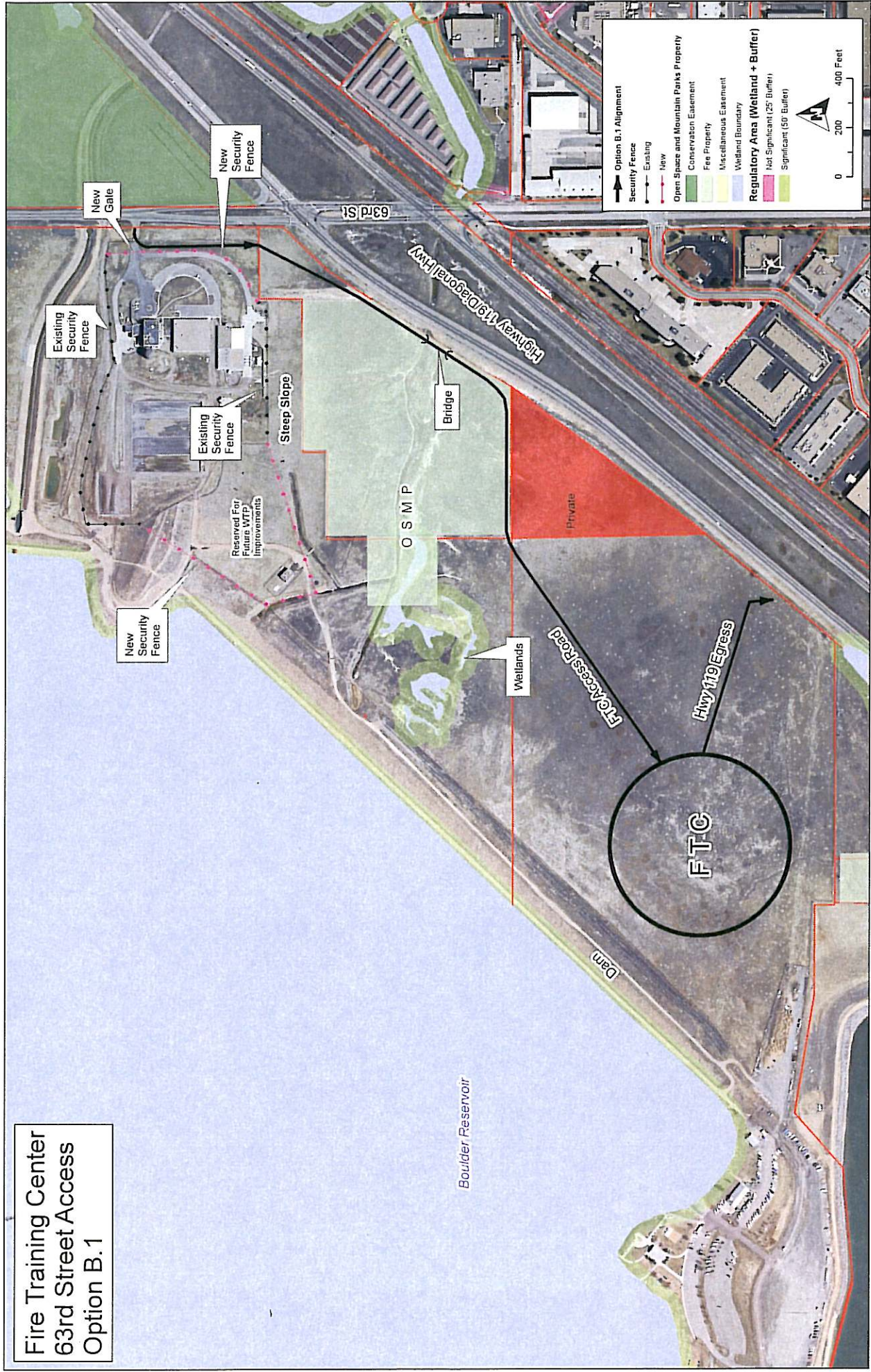
Option B-3 illustrates entering from 63rd, through the Water Treatment Plant entry, then orienting a new roadway that would head to the west and cross a small section of OSMP property to avoid a steep slope condition. This roadway would then continue to the west to join with an existing roadbed that is parallel with the dam. The existing roadway at the dam would be improved to handle the fire apparatus loading. This option represents the lengthiest approach to the FTC, but appears to have the least impact on OSMP property.

It is my understanding that you will be presenting the options that impact the OSMP property to your Board this week and we would appreciate the Board's consideration and comments on the plausibility of obtaining approval for any of the concept designs. We will be using their input as we proceed with the Planning Board review process.

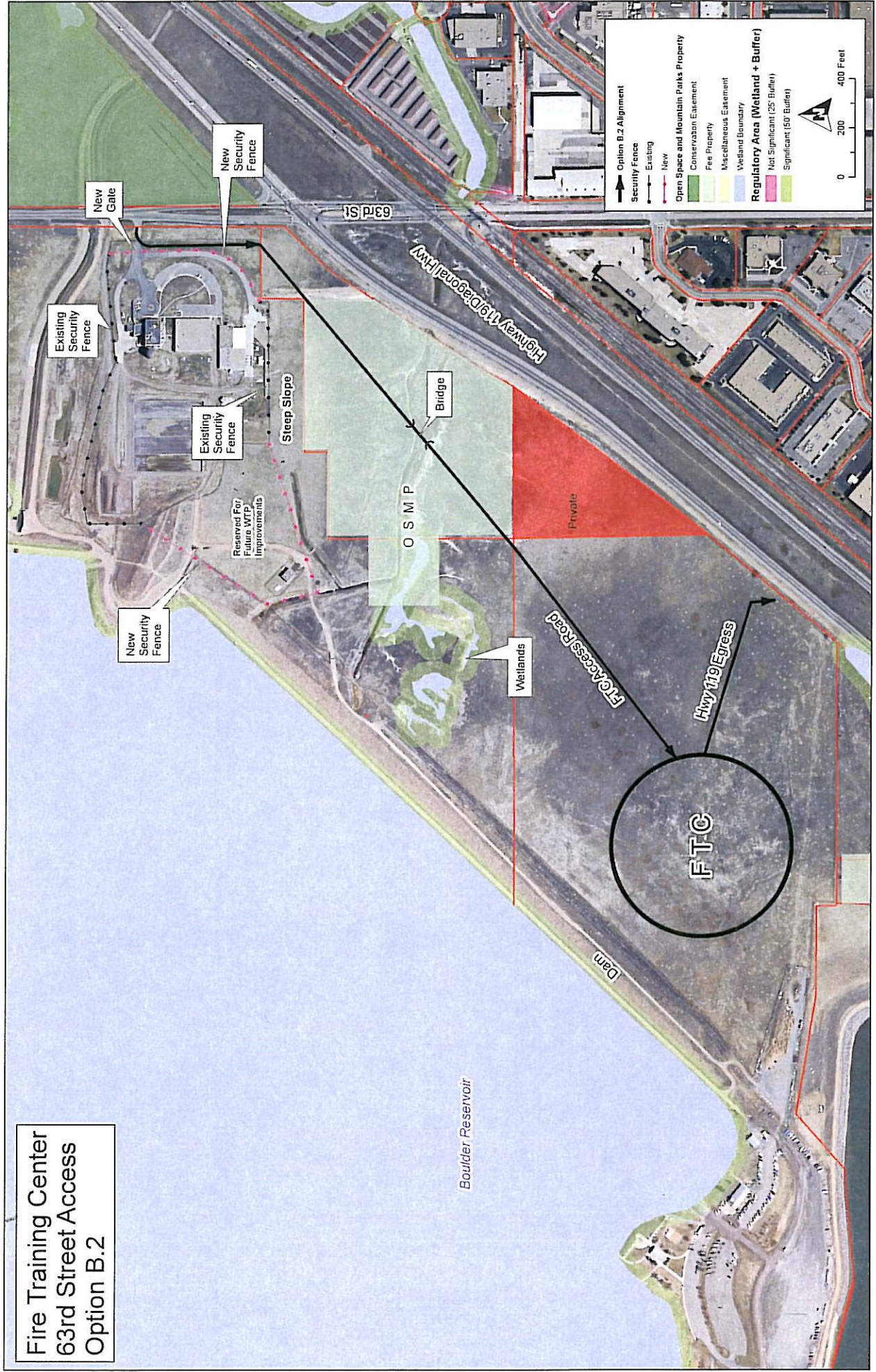
Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.



Fire Training Center
63rd Street Access
Option B.1



Fire Training Center
63rd Street Access
Option B.2



Fire Training Center
63rd Street Access
Option B.3

